Why Are Labels Required?

The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard mandates that all chemicals used in the workplace be properly labeled. Chemicals used in greenhouses or other non-laboratory areas are required to have more detailed label information than the same materials used in a laboratory setting.

Greenhouse Users Must:

Contact the greenhouse manager/supervisor BEFORE bringing any chemicals into the greenhouse or associated non-laboratory areas such as growth chambers, headhouses, hallways and storage cabinets.

What needs to be on the label?

- Full name of Chemical (no abbreviations, symbols or structures)
- Chemical name, a harmonized signal word approved GHS pictogram, hazard statement for each hazard class/category, a precautionary statement, and supplier identification.
- Owner’s name and telephone number

Chemwatch is a tool that can be used to print proper labels [https://sp.ehs.cornell.edu/lab-research-safety/research-safety/msds/Pages/default.aspx](https://sp.ehs.cornell.edu/lab-research-safety/research-safety/msds/Pages/default.aspx)

Materials Covered:

All containers in the workplace must be properly labeled. This includes:

- Laboratory Chemicals
- Growth Regulators
- Rooting Hormones
- Cleaning Products
- Water Containers must be labeled “Water” to avoid confusion with other solutions
- Containers containing residues must be labeled
- Bleach and Tri-Sodium Phosphate solutions greater than 1% concentration

Additional Compliance Requirements for the Hazard Communication Standard:

- Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) must be readily available to people on site and can be accessed at [https://sp.ehs.cornell.edu/lab-research-safety/research-safety/msds/Pages/default.aspx](https://sp.ehs.cornell.edu/lab-research-safety/research-safety/msds/Pages/default.aspx)
- A Current Inventory of All Chemicals must be kept where they are used. You must work with manager to determine location of SDS and inventory records are to be kept.
- All chemical bottles must be properly labeled and in compliance with Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) standards.

*Users of the CALS-Ithaca Greenhouses can find Greenhouse Policy and other greenhouse related information at [http://greenhouses.cals.cornell.edu](http://greenhouses.cals.cornell.edu)*
Chemical Labeling Guidance for Cornell Greenhouses

YES!
This is the CORRECT way to label!

NO!
This is the WRONG way to label!